



## Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**File No. 338**

Senate Bill No. 216

*Senate, April 7, 2010*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. COLEMAN of the 2nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES BY MUNICIPALITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 7-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

3 (a) No municipal corporation shall employ private detectives in the  
4 investigation or detection of crime at an expense of more than [five  
5 hundred] two thousand dollars unless a specific appropriation therefor  
6 has been made. [, nor unless the authorities thereof have first applied  
7 to the state police for assistance in such investigation and waited a  
8 reasonable time for said state police to act.]

9 (b) Any municipal official who violates any provision of subsection  
10 (a) of this section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars and  
11 shall be liable to such municipality in a civil action for the amount  
12 expended in excess of such sum as has been appropriated for such  
13 investigation.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |
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|           |                        |       |
|-----------|------------------------|-------|
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2010</i> | 7-283 |
|-----------|------------------------|-------|

**PD**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** See Below

**Explanation**

The bill would allow any municipality to increase, from \$500 to \$2,000, the amount it expends to employ private detectives, without a specific appropriation. It is anticipated that any resulting additional minimal costs will only be undertaken to the extent local resources allow.

Fewer municipal applications to the State Police for investigatory assistance would be expected, as the bill removes a provision of current law requiring a municipality requesting a specific appropriation exceeding \$500 to first apply for such assistance and then wait a reasonable time for the State Police to act.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** See Above

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 216*****AN ACT CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF PRIVATE DETECTIVES  
BY MUNICIPALITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill increases, from \$500 to \$2,000, the amount a town can spend without a specific appropriation to employ a private detective to investigate a crime. It eliminates a provision requiring officials without a specific appropriation to ask the state police for assistance and then wait a reasonable amount of time before spending money for private detectives.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2010

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/22/2010)